

CJNS International Conference
on
India's Development Strategy: Discourses on Past, Present and Future
Organized by
Centre for Jawaharlal Nehru Studies,
Jamia Millia Islamia (A Central University),
New Delhi, India
Conference Dates: 5-6 March, 2013

On 14 August 1947, Nehru had declared: "Long years ago we made a tryst with destiny, and now the time comes when we shall redeem our pledge. The achievement we celebrate today is but a step, an opening of opportunity, to the great triumph and achievements that await us." He reminded the country that the tasks ahead included "the ending of poverty and ignorance and disease and inequality of opportunity". These were the basic foundations on which India embarked upon its path of development since gaining independence in 1947. To achieve the above objectives and goals, India initiated planning for economic development with the establishment of the Planning Commission, assigning significant role for the government in economic activity.

The centre piece of India's development strategy was modernization through industrialization, based on Nehru-Mahalanobis strategy. Thus, India's leaders embarked on a programme of government occupation of the 'commanding heights' of the economy. Indian economy broadly kept closed with respect to international trade and finance. A significant dimension of development strategy related to improving the capabilities of the population by public provision of minimum levels of basic services in areas such as health and education. India's approach to development strategy represented a pioneering attempt to achieve higher standards of living through conscious and deliberate creation of institutions and policies, and through active state participation in, and direction of the process of development. This strategy remained essentially unchanged until the mid-1980s although the relative emphasis on different sectors of the economy was changed periodically in response to various social and political pressures?

Though, rethought was given to India's development strategy following the 1991 macroeconomic crisis. This was a crucial turning point in history of economic policy. As result of domestic pressure of external default and of global institutions such as IMF and World Bank, India initiated multiple steps deviating from historical development strategy. This phase of India's development strategy is popularly known as liberalization, privatization and globalization. Economic policy is growth oriented having core role of the market and globalization of markets. Emphasis is on the removal of market barriers. Though, this strategy has created danger of manipulating markets in the interest of few. Presently, there are large numbers of cases of market manipulations in news, say telecom market, natural resources market, aviation market, etc?

India had observed thousand state economic policies, market oriented economic policies, social welfare policies, and variety of policies in 65 years, though India's main socio-economic problems remain unresolved. If we look at poverty figures, the Planning Commission of India

says that 37% of people in India live below the poverty line (BPL). We are not better off than what was the scenario in 1990s. Similarly we are not able to bring any fundamental change regarding many other socio-economic problems. For Instance, what happened to unemployment, inequality, rural migration, women empowerment, access to health and education in last 65 years? Why we could not achieve “great triumph and achievements” perceived by India’s architect Pandit Nehru in 1947? Was the Nehru-Mahalanobis strategy faulty for India? Is the current development strategy is good for India? Why the markets do fails to deliver repeatedly? And why the state is not taking proactive role? Why does India fail to provide equal opportunity to underprivileged sections of society accounting 43 percent of population of India? Without proper development strategy for these marginal groups, India cannot proud its achievement? Is Indian’s present development strategy envisaged inclusive growth? What are the initiatives for the economic development of these underprivileged groups? If any, whether these development strategies have made any positive impact on the living conditions? What are the future expectations of various social groups? If any change is required who will bring this change? What is the role of civil society and other voices such as academia, judiciary, etc in this development strategy? Are political parties only representative of India’s democratic voice? There are unlimited numbers of questions of such nature.

Theme of the Conference

To explore the answer above questions, the centre for Jawaharlal Nehru Studies is intended to organize this conference. The conference is expected to deliberate India’s development strategy retrospectively as well as prospectively. The conference is structured around following broad themes:

- 1) Nehru and Indian Development Strategy
- 2) Role of Market Vs State in Development Strategy
- 3) Marginalized Groups (SCs, STs and Minorities) in Indian Development Strategy
- 4) Political, Economic and Social Development
- 5) Economic Growth and Sustainable development
- 6) Regional Development, Poverty and Inequality in India
- 7) Contemporary Economy and Globalization
- 8) Trade, Technology and Development
- 9) Regional Economic Alliances and Co-operations and National Development Targets
- 10) Experiences of Development Strategies of Other Developing Economies

Above themes are tentative and indicative in nature and selection of papers is the prerogative of organizers.

Call for Papers

The International conference on “**India’s Development Strategy: Discourses on Past, Present and Future**”, to be organized by the Centre for Jawaharlal Nehru Studies, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi (India), aims at bringing together the researchers, academia, policy makers, civil society organizations, industry representatives and other scholars to an international forum for

the dissemination of original research results, new ideas and practical experiences which concentrate on both theory and empirics.

The conference will solicit both theoretical and empirical research papers associated with conference themes. Authors are advised to submit their paper electronically in MS Word format to Dr. Shahid Ahmed, Director, CNJS, Email: shahec@gmail.com and sahmed@jmi.ac.in Papers will be blind refereed and revised version of selected papers will be published.

Registration Fee (Indian Rupees)

Participants	Registration Fee (On/before 28 Feb, 2013)	Registration Fee (After 28 Feb, 2013)
Invited Speakers/Paper Writers	Free	Free
Academician/Research Students	1500	3000
Others	2000	4000

The conference fee should be send via a Demand Draft in favour of Registrar, Jamia Millia Islamia, drawn on Indian Bank, Jamia Nagar, New Delhi. The draft should be sent to Dr. Shahid Ahmed, Director, Centre for Jawaharlal Nehru Studies, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi-110025.

Important Deadlines

Abstract Submission	15 January, 2013
Paper Submission	05 February, 2013
Notification for Accepted Papers	20 February 2013
Conference Dates	5-6 March, 2013

Financial supports

Participants are expected to bear their travel cost. The organizers will bear expenses of local hospitality. In select cases, partial/full travel grants may be extended to one author depending on the availability of funds. In such cases, the participants are advised to apply separately with reasons for seeking grants. However, the final decision will be taken by organizers depending on the merits of seeking grants and on the availability of funds.

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